

IN THE CLAIMS

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims

Claims 1 to 10 (canceled).

Claim 11 (currently amended): A packing sleeve for a printing unit cylinder of an offset printing press comprising:

an outer lateral surface having at least one region and a slot; and
an inner lateral surface, the slot being continuous and extending from the outer lateral surface to the inner lateral surface, the slot receiving edges of a plate-form printing plate or a printing blanket;

the at least one region including an area having a plurality of incisions;
the plurality of incisions increasing an elasticity of the packing sleeve in a peripheral direction.

Claim 12 (previously presented): The packing sleeve as recited in claim 11 wherein the incisions run parallel to the figure axis of the packing sleeve.

Claim 13 (previously presented): The packing sleeve as recited in claim 11 wherein the incisions in the area are arranged along lines, the incisions of adjacent lines lying offset with respect to one another.

Claim 14 (currently amended): The packing sleeve as recited in claim 13 wherein a ratio of a length of the incisions to a spacing of adjacent lines is between 5.00:1 and 50.00:1.

Claim 15 (previously presented): The packing sleeve as recited in claim 11 wherein the region extends over the entire outer lateral surface.

Claim 16 (previously presented): The packing sleeve as recited in claim 11 wherein a width of the incisions is selected to reduce deformation during a printing mode of a printing plate received on the packing sleeve.

Claim 17 (canceled).

Claim 18 (previously presented): The packing sleeve as recited in claim 17 wherein an area surrounding the slot has no incisions.

Claim 19 (currently amended): The packing sleeve as recited in claim 11 wherein the packing sleeve is steel or ~~aluminium~~ aluminum.

Claim 20 (previously presented): A method for enlarging the effective outer diameter of a printing unit cylinder in an offset printing press comprising the step of:
drawing a packing sleeve over a printing unit cylinder in an offset printing press, wherein the packing sleeve is recited in claim 11.

Claim 21 (previously presented): An offset printing press comprising:
a printing unit cylinder having a packing sleeve as recited in claim 11.

Claim 22 (new): The packing sleeve as recited in claim 13 wherein the lines run parallel to a figure axis of the packing sleeve.

Claim 23 (new): The packing sleeve as recited in claim 11 wherein the elasticity of the area is anisotropic.

Claim 24 (new): The packing sleeve as recited in claim 11 wherein the slot is trapezoidal or prismatic.

Claim 25 (new): The packing sleeve as recited in claim 11 wherein the incisions extend through the packing sleeve.

Claim 26 (new): The packing sleeve as recited in claim 11 wherein the packing sleeve includes a number of segments that are welded together alternately discontinuously.

Claim 27 (new): The packing sleeve as recited in claim 11 wherein the packing sleeve is made from metal.

Claim 28 (new): The offset printing press recited in claim 21 further comprising a printing plate for mounting on the packing sleeve, wherein a width of the incisions is selected to reduce deformation during a printing mode of the printing plate mounted on the packing sleeve.